



PATENT
Docket No. 524182000200

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Ruth M. Saskowski

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Lee A. BULLA, Jr.,
and Mehmet CANDAS

Serial No.: 09/696,801

Filing Date: 25 October 2000

For: GENE MINING SYSTEM AND
METHOD

Examiner: Lori A. Clow

Group Art Unit: 1631

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office action herein mailed 18 December 2002, time for response to which was set to expire 18 March 2003. A petition for an extension of time of two (2) months until 18 May 2003 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. All pending claims were rejected. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants greatly appreciate the withdrawal of the rejections previously made over the art; the remaining rejections are made under § 112.